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## Cul-du-sacs

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Fera, Greg <greg.fera@doe.state.nj.us>

Tue, Oct 8, 2013 at 9:29 AM

To: Jerry Ford <jerryford@dvrhs.k12.nj.us>

Cc: "Shelmet, Dot" <dot.shelmet@doe.state.nj.us>, "Zirilli, Raymond" <raymond.zirilli@doe.state.nj.us>

Jerry:

There is nothing in Statute or Code that specifically addresses this issue. However, NJAC 6A:27-9.3(d) 1 iii states that "...routes shall be arranged so that the buses shall traverse highways..." which supports excluding the use of cul-de-sacs and dead end streets. Also, as an industry standard the use of both cul-de-sacs and dead end streets is not a recommended practice for a number of reasons. These include:

- Limited turn-around space often making it necessary for the bus to back-up. This practice, itself, is also usually discouraged because the limited visibility from the bus creates a hazardous situation.
- Possible damage to private property (e.g. mailboxes, shrubs, cars) due to the limited turn-around space.
- Greater inaccessibility in inclement weather (e.g. snow or ice may make it more difficult, if not impossible, for the driver to reach the assigned stop).
- Also, there is the issue of entering the main road from a cul-de-sac or dead end street. Because buses are slow moving vehicles (especially from a dead stop), exiting either of the above areas into oncoming traffic may create a more hazardous situation than stopping on the main road where the bus is more clearly visible.

For these reasons, many districts do have a policy to not use cul-de-sacs or dead end streets for bus stops unless it is absolutely necessary (e.g. required by the IEP in extreme situations). Finally, it is the district board of education that is responsible for establishing the route and the stops along the route and it has the authority to determine district policy regarding this matter.

I hope you find the above information helpful. If you have any other questions, or require additional information, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Gregory W. Fera, Jr.

Senior Pupil Transportation Specialist

Office of Student Transportation